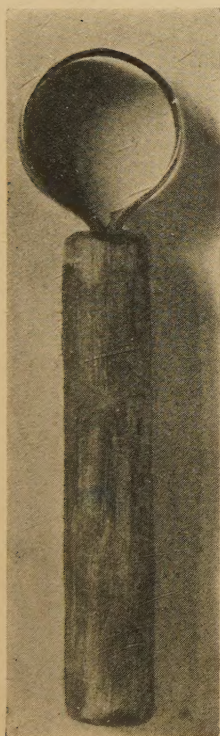


ANCIENT EGYPT

1928. SEPTEMBER. PART III.

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EDITOR, PROF. SIR FLINDERS PETRIE, F.R.S., F.B.A.

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ANCIENT EGYPT.

AN ANCIENT EGYPTIAN KNIFE IN MODERN EGYPT.

In an article in the *Acta Orientalia* (1928, pp. 288-304), I have treated exhaustively of the Coptic word ελκω and variants, meaning the fruit of the sycomore (*Ficus sycomorus* L.). My results are based almost entirely on a fact well known to all Orientals and to botanists. A few days before the fruit is ripe the peasant climbs the tree and cuts or notches each individual fruit. By this method the insects (*Blastophagae sycomori*), which breed in sycomore figs, are completely destroyed. A few days later the fruit is picked when it has developed its flavour and sweetness.

For the details of proof I must refer the reader to the article mentioned above. Here I can give only the most important results:—

(1) $e\lambda\kappa\omega$ (and its variants) = , ,  (),
e.g. :- 

e.g. :—

nkw·t = Copt. *elkō* [wet] *ελκω, ελκοϋ, λκοϋ.*

nkɥw = „, elkó [we] ελκω, ελκοῦ, λκοῦ.

$nk^{\circ}wt =$ „ elkó [ˈwet] ελκο.

(2) For the meaning of the Egyptian $n\dot{k}^c w \cdot t$ and its variants, compare the compound  = the $n\dot{k}^c w \cdot t$ of the sycomore tree.

(3) $nkw \cdot t$, nkw , $nk^cw \cdot t$ means "the notched" or "the cut" (i.e. the fruit).

This explains the determinative of the knife in  and the bird's claw in , as the verb  has the meaning of "To notch or cut."

(4) On the ancient Egyptian monuments sycomore figs are constantly represented as notched or cut.

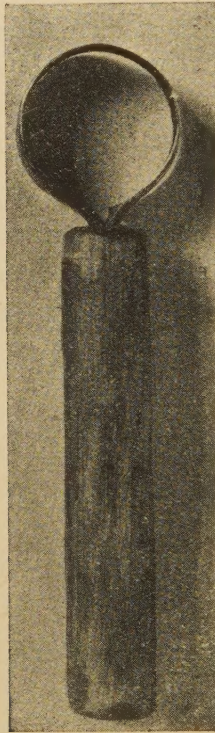
(5) Amos vii, 14, **בֹּלֵם שִׁקְמוֹרִים** = *κνίζων συκάμυνα* (LXX) = *vellicans sycomoros* (Vulg.). The Hebrew **בֹּלֵם** is ἀπαξ λεγόμενον; but it is fully explained by *κνίζων*, *vellicans* = Notched, cut. Therefore Amos vii, 14, must be translated: "But I was a herdsman and a cutter of sycomore figs."

After my article had appeared, I bought from a native gardener in Old Cairo the knife here figured, which is used exclusively for the notching of sycomore figs. The actual knife is in the form of a broad ring sharpened on one side and set in a wooden handle. The gardener gave me the following details: "Before I begin the work of cutting the sycomore figs, first of all I sharpen two similar knives. Then I climb the tree. As there are innumerable fruit on the tree, I must work quickly. I take therefore a knife in each hand, that is when the form of the branch offers sufficient hold."

This form of knife, as I have shown, is well known among the fellahîn throughout Egypt wherever the sycomore grows. It must also have occurred in ancient times; this is certainly proved by the form of the cut in the representation of the sycomore-fruit, , for the crescent-shaped cut shows the circular form of the knife.

It would be interesting to know whether any collection possesses a similar knife such as was used by the ancient Egyptians, and the prophet Amos. At all events, we have learned of an ancient Egyptian practice which has remained unaltered to the present day.

LUDWIG KEIMER.



CARES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERY.

THE casual reader looking over a volume on excavations may not at all realise what goes to the making of it. There seems a kind of natural conclusion that if the things were there to be found, of course they would sooner or later appear in print. After securing adequate funds, and making sure what supplies there are for the work, the choice of a site is all-important for results; excavators have been known to dig and find nothing. Then the working staff of heads and hands has to be chosen, and led by careful training into the lines required. The mode of record must keep note of every point which will have to be considered later, and not omit some crucial detail on which the results depend. Everything has to be secured from the work and kept safely; a constant watch on the work is needful to prevent the removal of some necessary part of the evidence of position. The plans, drawings, and photographs must be kept up to date, and not allowed to get into arrears. The daily roll-call and weekly pay-night occupy hours of attention. All this is only the first half of the work.

After return to England, there comes the preparation of the published account, without which the work is on the level of mere plundering. Full observation of details must have been made, but "the notebooks must not be emptied on the head of the public." The material must be tabulated, and the evidence for conclusions fully brought forward; the comparisons with other discoveries must be stated. The whole results must undergo arrangement for easy reference, and text must be connected with plates. The main interests have to be put forward, to show in what way the researches have enlarged our vision. To publish efficiently, the technical intricacies of management of plates and printers must be mastered.

All of these business details have to be learnt, like any other business, profiting by the errors and experience of the past. The training of men and women to succeed properly in all of this is a matter of years, and it is the duty of the British Schools of Archaeology in each country to provide this training. The School of Archaeology in Egypt has been the field of experience for nearly all the British subjects employed in such affairs in Egypt—from Directors of the Museum down to helpers in the field. Such training cannot be carried on without large expenses for travelling and maintenance, and our liabilities in this service alone are much over £1,000 a year. There has lately been an article by a high official, encouraging men to look to archaeology as a profession, and it is the necessary training which has been the special care of the British School of Archaeology in Egypt for twenty-four years. Scholarships for helping students forward are greatly needed, and a Scholarship account is now opened for the purpose. Contributions or donations for a capital account are a necessary step, and response is invited to our appeal for this much-needed assistance to research.

Sums sent in to H. Petrie (Lady), University College, Gower Street, W.C.1, will be acknowledged by return of post and listed in our next issue.

FLINDERS PETRIE.

A SPIRAL DESIGN IN PREDYNASTIC EGYPT.

THE jar illustrated in fig. 1 is a fine example of the decorated pottery of the Middle Predynastic period. Height, $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The design is of a more purposely decorative kind than is usual, the large "aloe-plant" illustrated being symmetrically balanced by another on the side not shown. The latter has only one flowering branch, bending over to the right; its spikes are joined so that the branch looks like a much-elongated ear of wheat. The empty spaces on the side not illustrated are filled with the usual S-shaped elements in rows, and with the disputed object, sail or stretched-out skin, between two objects resembling knapsacks, as shown in Pl. XIX of *Prehistoric Egypt*, No. 41U (in bottom right-hand corner). The three semicircular designs of serrated loops are placed very exactly, as are the similarly constituted lines round the top of the jar, forming with the two large "aloe-plants" a very pleasing design. The artist was indeed skilled.

But the most interesting detail is the design of intertwining spirals, shown in fig. 2. It is very carefully worked out, with clean brush-strokes, skilfully joined, clearly visible in the original. It consists of a single coiled line starting at the middle of the right-hand side; it would seem that the artist, impatient with the usual patchy decoration of concentric circles, had contrived, in this manner, the semblance of a pair of such circles conjoined. He probably arranged the design beforehand with a coil of rope; perhaps a curious mind, playing with such a coil, was struck with its possibilities for decoration and, on this jar, put the idea into execution.

This design is, I believe, unique in this class of pottery; though I have made enquiries of various authorities, I have not heard of another. In any case, it is exceedingly rare; the artist who painted it must have possessed skill beyond the ordinary, otherwise we must surely have met with other examples in some quantity. It is strange that we should have to wait till the period of the Middle Kingdom before meeting again with anything like this design.

It should, however, be noted that another example of spirals in decoration occurs in Mesopotamia in very early times, for last winter's excavations by Mr. Woolley at Ur, on behalf of the British Museum and the Pennsylvania University Museum, brought to light, from the grave of Queen Shub-ad, a small gold seal with interlaced spiral designs on its face which gave to the face its quatrefoil outline. A drawing of the design is given in fig. 3.

It seems that, in the presence of these two objects, theories as to the origin of spiral designs will have to undergo some modification.

The jar was bought in the winter 1926-7 at Luxor, where many predynastic objects were on sale at the various dealers', and still more were kept back in some neighbouring village, as store from which dealers could replenish their stocks. Evidently there had been great secret looting of some newly found predynastic cemetery, whose site one could not, of course, learn easily; queries only resulted in the conventional answer of "Gebelein." All this was changed last winter; stocks had been emptied, and prices, which had been very moderate, soared high.

G. D. HORNBLOWER.

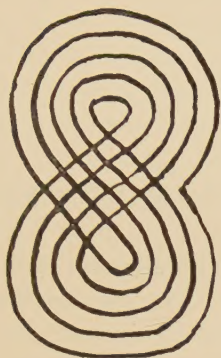


FIG. 2.—DETAIL OF PREDYNASTIC SPIRAL.



FIG. 3.—SPIRAL FROM UR.

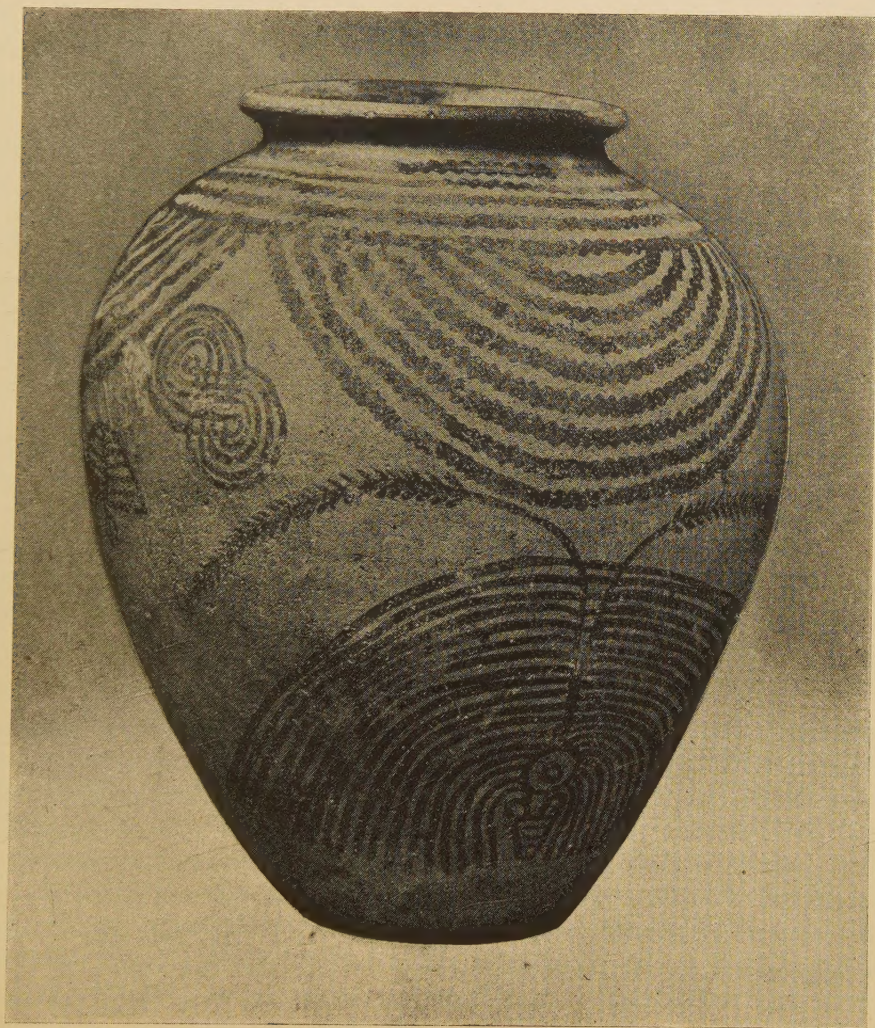


FIG. 1.—JAR OF DECORATED POTTERY, MIDDLE PREDYNASTIC PERIOD.

NEOLITHIC POTTERY FROM THE NORTHERN FAYÛM.

INTRODUCTORY.—Since the preparation for adequate publication of the extensive and varied information collected in three seasons from the northern Fayûm must be unhurried, it has seemed desirable to release in advance an account of the prehistoric pottery there obtained. For this pottery constitutes an entirely new class of wares, probably actually ante-dating any yet known from the Nile Valley proper, and, in any case, on its own internal evidence, belonging to a true Neolithic culture-status. Those unfamiliar with the evidence are referred to preliminary accounts in *Journ. Roy. Anthropol. Inst.*, Vol. LVI, 1926; *Man*, October, 1925, and July, 1928; and *Antiquity*, September, 1927. A summary of the geological evidence will be found in the *Geological Magazine*, September, 1927.

Since this paper was written, Dr. Junker's most interesting discoveries in the Western Delta have been published (Akademie der Wissenschaften in Wien, Denkschriften 68, Band 3, Abhandlung). Both flints and pottery make it clear that the Delta site at Merimde belongs to the Fayûm midden culture. It would seem incidentally to confirm my division of the Fayûm culture into an "A" and a "B" period, based both on an exhaustive study of lacustrine levels in relation to some thousands of implements and upon the contents of the middens (see *Man*, July, 1928). The flints figured from Dr. Junker's site belong exclusively to those I assigned to the "A" period.

The Fayûm pottery was found, with four exceptions, during the seasons 1924-5 and 1925-6, when the work was performed on behalf of the British School of Archaeology in Egypt. Investigations were continued in 1927-8 under the aegis of the Royal Anthropological Institute; but further advance in prehistory was seriously crippled by the intrusion of the Oriental Institute of Chicago, who had gained a foothold in the area of our researches during our temporary absence; consequently four more pots only are added to those previously found, and these not of new forms.

SOURCES.—The bulk of the material came from a large midden settlement, Kom W, some 600 by 400 feet in size and about 5 feet deep. (Pl. vi, 1-4.) The contents of this mound were almost entirely of the earlier Neolithic or Fayûm "A" period. Fifty-one pots from this site are here figured and described; about thirty-four others, too much disintegrated to preserve permanently, were recorded: none, however, was rejected unless of repetitive form. Paraffin-wax had frequently to be used *in situ* as a consolidating agent. Other vessels came from inside straw-lined granaries: these are better preserved. Some large and fragmentary jars of the type figured 41 were also found in the granary area, standing on their bases, the rims just beneath surface level between the silos. Pl. x shows one such jar, the upper half of which had perished, found standing upon a platter of wheat-straw. Finally, a few more were found, singly, in other parts of the desert.

CLASSIFICATION.—The forms may be grouped under five headings :—

- (1) Small bowls and cups (Pls. i, 1-23 ; vii, 1-8, 11-13).
- (2) Cooking bowls or pots (Pls. ii-iv, 24-45).
- (3) Pedestal cups (Pls. v, 50, 51 ; vii, 9).
- (4) Cups with legged bases (Pls. iv, 46 ; vii, 10).
- (5) Rectangular dishes with " peaked " rims (Pls. v, 47-49 ; viii, 1-3).

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS.—All are hand-made, in coarse clay, with chopped straw as a *dégraissant*. Unequal and insufficient firing has produced a grey mottling on the red pots ; and the core is black in nearly all cases, soft, and readily disintegrated. A symmetric outline is rare. The rims are straight-lipped without curve. Bases in classes 1 and 2 are rounded or flattened, never pointed. The combination of organic matter characteristic of midden earth, with the all-pervading salt of the Fayûm desert, produced conditions inimical to the preservation of texture ; few retain their original surfaces.

FINISH.—Undoubtedly many of the pots were rough-faced and devoid of slip or burnish. But it is possible that some of those I have thus described were originally provided with a slip : No. 2 on Pl. x shows this finer coating in the act of peeling off under the action of salt. It is clear moreover that both a polished ferruginous wash and a burnished black finish were frequently used. Analyses will appear in the final publication.

(a) *Red Polish*.—Class 5 in particular is associated with a thin ferruginous slip, polished, and of a purple-red colour similar in appearance to the older Nile Valley predynastic wares, though the paste of those is hard and compact. Of the three complete specimens (Pls. viii ; v, 47-49), one only, it is true, retains the slip which is confined to the interior (Pl. viii, 3). The others, however, are much damaged by exposure, and my belief in their original similarity rests on the fact that of the thirty-six sherds belonging to this type of dish collected from Kom W, a fair number still bear on the interior the polished-red surface. Specimens of the characteristic rims of these dishes are seen in Pl. xi, 1-10. Amongst other complete pots, a red polish occurs in four instances only, viz., the cooking-pots (Pls. ii, 27, 30 and 31 ; iv, 43). In addition, forty-two red-polished sherds, not clearly belonging to class 5, were found in Kom W.

(b) *Black Polish*.—This is rare. The small bowl of class 1 (Pls. i, 22 ; vii, 5) is the only complete specimen ; the polish is on the exterior. The sherd (Pl. xi, 11), from a granary, belongs to a similar globular form, and is highly polished. Three other fragments—and ten only were obtained in all—are figured 12-14. The interesting studded rim (Pl. ix, 2) belongs also, I think, to this category. I publish the little pot (Pl. ix, 1) with some diffidence, without assurance of its period. Except for its black polished surface, it conforms to nothing either from the middens, or from Nile Valley sites of any age. It was found on the surface west of Dimê, near a " Neolithic " site.

(c) *Hand-smoothed*.—A few sherds were found, such as Pl. xi, 19, which, though bearing no secondarily applied slip, were smoothly finished, more probably with a wet hand than with a shell or other implement.

FORMS.—Classes 1 and 2 are of the simplest description and need no comment. Forms such as these, common to all very primitive ceramic development, are useless as evidence of relationship. It will be noticed, however, that the vessels (Pl. iv, 44, 45) have footed bases ; the material is at present too scanty to admit of their removal into a separate class.

Class 3 (Pedestalled Cups) is very important, and suggests the prototype for those rare and early Nile Valley predynastic vases, figured in *Prehistoric Corpus*, F 19^a, 19^b, 27; C 39^E, 40^T. One complete specimen (Pl. vii, 4) now in the British Museum, portions of two others and eight bases were found. Dr. Junker, *op. cit.*, Pl. xix (a), 1 and 2, figures the bases of two similar pedestal cups from the Western Delta. (The occurrence of this form in the Middle Neolithic stratum at Knossos affords yet another instance of cultural relationship between Libya and Crete.)

Class 4 (Legged Cups) is poorly represented; the miniature vase (Pls. iv, 46; vii, 10), now in the British Museum, is of the "mud-pie" variety; the bases of two vases, each with four rudimentary knobs, were, however, also found. The type is represented in the *Prehistoric Corpus* by two dated examples of s.d. 35 and 45.

Class 5 is, perhaps, the most interesting of all, in so far as it appears to have no parallel in the predynastic period, though a similar form is figured in *Rifeh* (Pl. XXV, 44) of Pan-grave age. That the type was relatively common in the midden industry is seen by the number we found of fragments of "peaked" corners of the rims, *i.e.* 36, or enough for nine bowls in addition to the three complete specimens. Their red-polished surface has already been noted.

RIVET HOLES.—These were not common, but nine instances were recorded. Pl. xi, 18, shows one of them.

DECORATION.—No trace of incised, combed, or painted pottery was found. The studded rim (Pl. ix, 2) came from Kom W: a close parallel from Badari is photographed with it (Pl. ix, 3) for comparison.¹ A rough red sherd with a "boss" is figured (Pl. xi, 20). (Dr. Junker figures similar sherds, *op. cit.*, Pl. xxii (a).) The little black polished pot (Pl. ix, 1) of uncertain age is decorated with incised punctuations.

INVENTORY.²

Pl. I, 1; vii, 12. Kom W, I 86/2.—Bowl in rough-faced pinky-grey ware; smoke-blackened base; very asymmetric; rim diameter about 5.5 by 6.3 ins.; thickness at rim about 0.4 i. Lying at 30 i. beneath the surface, inverted, and about 18 i. above bottom level. (British Museum, 58694.)

Pl. I, 2; vii, 7. Upper K Granary, No. 47.—Bowl in hard rough-faced brown ware; flattened base; thickness at rim about 0.35 i. Found inside a small straw-lined silo, measuring 41 i. wide by 21 i. deep. No other contents. (University College.)

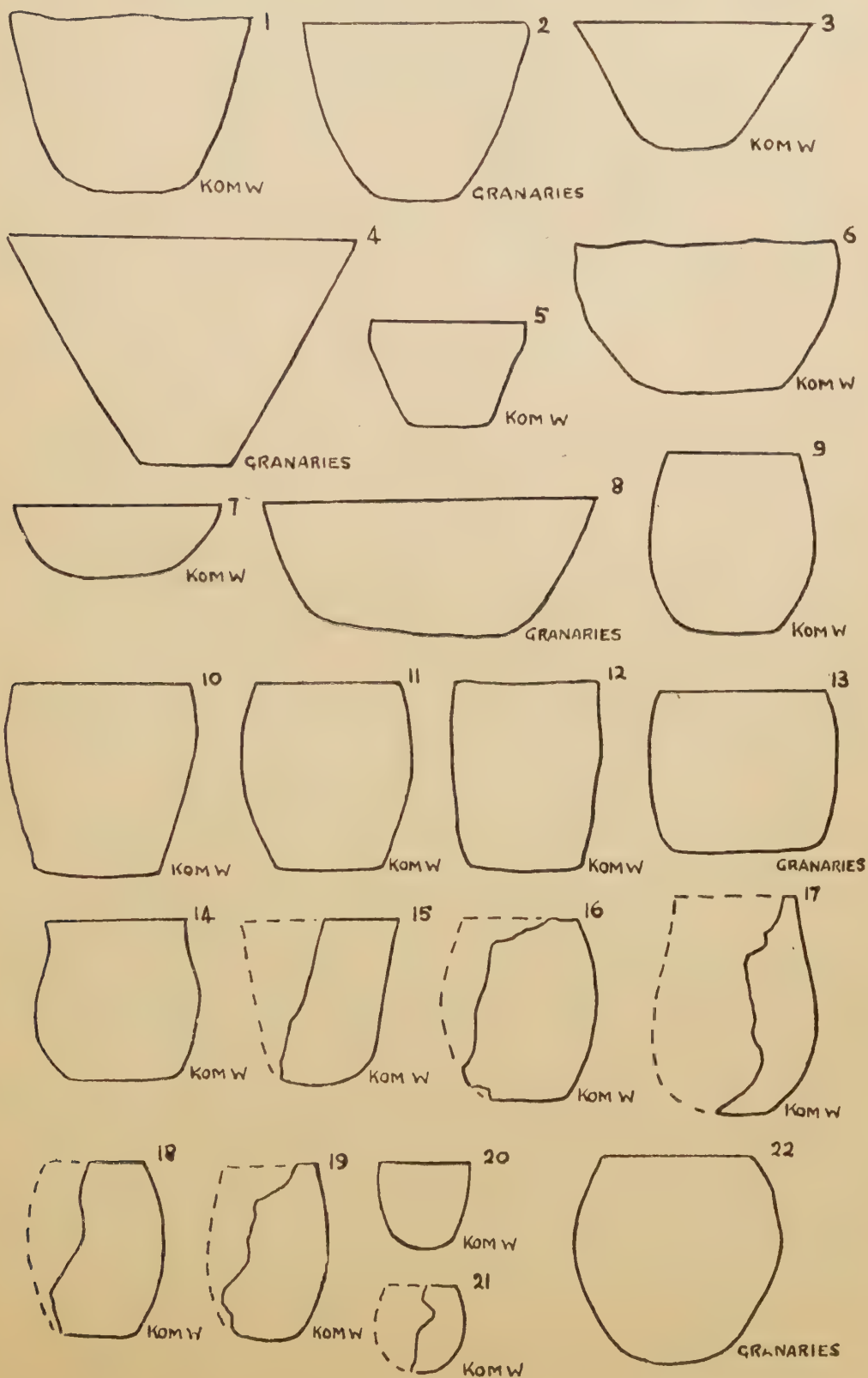
Pl. I, 3; vii, 4. Kom W, O 90/19.—Bowl in rough-faced brown ware, with disintegrated surface; thickness of rim about 0.3 i. Lying 6 i. beneath the surface and about 34 i. above bottom level. (U.C.)

Pl. I, 4; vii, 8. Upper K Granary, No. 7.—Bowl, wide-mouthed, with flattened base; interior rough-faced, red-brown, with traces of horizontal smoothing; exterior much blackened with smoke. The surface shows vertical smoothing.

¹ I must again plead that the "Fayûm Industry" be not labelled "Badarian"; to do so is, in my opinion, to confuse the issue. Those of us best acquainted with the peculiarities of both these very early cultures, do not need to be shown the resemblances, and we must be pardoned if we weigh the differences. A European prehistorian observes the differences between Aurignacean and Magdalenian, and would deplore their confusion; our case is not dissimilar.

² The mound was worked on a "latitude and longitude" system measured in feet. The letter indicates the block, the figures the latitude and longitude position.

PLATE I.



Found inside a small unlined silo, measuring only 18 i. in diameter by 9 i. deep, and 9 i. beneath present surface. The bowl was already broken when placed in the granary, and the portions were missing. (U.C.)

Pl. I, 5. Kom W, No. 4.—Small Bowl with incurved sides, reconstructed from half original, in rough-faced brown ware, very badly fired; thickness at rim 0·3 i. Lying about 6 i. beneath the surface. (Figured and described in *Man*, Oct., 1925, Pl. K, No. 4.) (U.C.)

Pl. I, 6; vii, 11. Kom W, Q 79/11.—Bowl in rough-faced mottled-grey and red ware, caused by unequal firing; outer surface disintegrated; the rim is of uneven height and the diameter asymmetric; about 6·5 by 6 i. Thickness at rim about 0·43 i. This was just beneath the surface, and about 4 f. 1 i. above bottom level. (U.C.)

Pl. I, 7. Kom W, No. 12.—Saucer in rough-faced red ware, insufficiently fired and very soft. This was just beneath the surface. (Figured and described in *Man*, Oct., 1925, Pl. K, No. 5.) (Cambridge Ethnological.)

Pl. I, 8; vii, 13. Upper K Granary, No. 60.—Oval Dish in rough-faced brown ware, disintegrated surface, and extremely asymmetric. Found inside an unlined silo, about 14 i. beneath surface, together with pot (Pl. I, 22). (B.M., 58693.)

Pl. I, 9; vii, 2. Kom W, K 75/19.—Cup in brown-grey rough-faced ware, reconstructed from about two-thirds original; thickness at rim about 0·35 i. Lying 9 i. beneath the surface and about 18 i. above bottom level. (U.C.)

Pl. I, 10. Kom W.—Number and position obliterated. Cup in rough-faced red ware, disintegrated surface. (U.C.)

Pl. I, 11; vii, 3. Kom W.—Number and position obliterated. Cup in rough-faced pinky-grey ware, better fired than the preceding, but otherwise resembling it. Reconstructed from about half original. (U.C.)

Pl. I, 12. Lower K Granary, No. 37.—Cup in very rough soft red-grey ware, much disintegrated; thickness at rim about 0·3 i. From inside an unlined silo, measuring 3 f. 7 i. in diameter and 2 f. 4 i. deep. The cup was in the gravelly filling, only 8 i. beneath the top. Not kept.

Pl. I, 13; vii, 6. Upper K Granary, No. 64.—Cup, straight-sided with flattened base, in coarse rough-faced red ware; thickness at rim about 0·47 i. The base is smoke-blackened. Found inside a straw-lined silo, 3 f. in diameter by 2 f. deep, and 8 i. beneath present surface. The cup, which lay on the floor, was incrustated with the shelly gravel filling; with it lay two fragments of highly polished black pottery (see Pl. xi, 11). (B.M., 58694.)

Pl. I, 14. Kom W, P 105/5.—Cup in rough-faced pinky-buff ware, incurved sides and flattened base; reconstructed from about half original. This was 30 i. from surface, and about 29 i. above bottom level. (C.E.)

Pl. I, 15. Kom W.—Number and position obliterated. Small beaker-shaped cup in rough-faced red ware, badly fired; reconstructed from about half original. (U.C.)

Pl. I, 16. Kom W, I 65/0.—Cup in rough-faced red-grey ware. Reconstructed from two-thirds original. Found 1 f. beneath surface, and about 10 i. above bottom level. (U.C.)

Pl. I, 17. Kom W, J 79/17.—Cup in rough-faced red-grey ware. Reconstructed from about quarter original. Lying 26 i. beneath surface and about 10 i. above bottom level. (U.C.)

- Pl. I, 18. Kom W, I 80/9.—Cup in rough-faced red-brown ware. Reconstructed from about half original. Lying 2 f. beneath surface and about 1 f. above bottom level.
- Pl. I, 19. Kom W, P 91/19.—Cup in rough-faced red ware. Reconstructed from about half original. Lying 1 f. beneath surface and about 3 f. 1 i. above bottom level. (U.C.)
- Pl. I, 20. Kom W, No. 13.—Small Cup in rough-faced dark brown ware with disintegrated surface. Lying 4 i. beneath surface in original trial section and about 4 f. above bottom level. (Cairo Museum.)
- Pl. I, 21. Kom W, K 50/1.—Small Cup in rough-faced red ware, reconstructed from about half original. Found 30 i. beneath surface in a pit cut into the lacustrine sands underlying the midden; the hole measured 30 i. in diameter, and was filled with black midden earth containing some fish-bones and a red sherd with ferruginous polish. (U.C.)
- Pl. I, 22; vii, 5. Upper K Granary, No. 60.—Bowl, spherical, in dark-grey ware, polished and probably originally black, similar to fragment (Pl. xi, 11) from Granary K 64; portion of the rim is missing; thickness at rim about 0.3 i. Found with the dish shown on Pl. I, 8. (B.M., 58691.)
- Pl. ii, 23; vii, 1. Kom W, F 154/12.—Bowl in rough-faced red and mottled-grey ware, reconstructed from about half original; thickness at rim about 0.3 i. Found 3 i. beneath surface, in clean sand on the midden edge, in a compact group, with 1 hexagonal grit hammer-stone, 2 unworked chert flakes, and some fish-bones. (U.C.)
- Pl. ii, 24. Kom W, R 135/8.—Small Cooking Bowl in coarse rough-faced red ware, with mottled dark patches due to irregular firing; thickness at rim about 0.4 i. Lying 4 i. beneath surface and about 4 f. 7 i. above bottom level.
- Pl. ii, 25. Kom W, No. 9.—Small Cooking Bowl in coarse rough-faced red-brown ware, irregularly fired, the surface completely perished through salt corrosion; thickness at rim about 0.43 i. It was 6 i. beneath surface in original trial section and about 3 f. 9 i. above bottom level. The bowl was drawn *in situ*, being too friable to preserve.
- Pl. ii, 26. Lower K Granary, No. 41.—Small Cooking Bowl in coarse rough-faced brown-red ware; thickness at rim about 0.4 i. Placed inside a mud-lined silo, 40 i. in diameter by 25 i. deep. The bowl was in fragments, temporarily mended for drawing, but was too much disintegrated to keep.
- Pl. ii, 27. Upper K Granary, No. 65.—Small Cooking Bowl, rimless and broken in three pieces; the surface bears traces of a ferruginous external polish, with a black patch due to unequal firing. Found inside an unlined hole sunk in shelly gravel in the granary pit area, at a depth beneath present surface of 14 i. (U.C.)
- Pl. ii, 28; x, 4. Kom W, K 29/5.—Cooking Bowl in coarse rough-faced pink-grey ware. Lying 6 i. beneath surface, and about 9 i. above bottom level. The pot contained some fish-bones. (C.E.)
- Pl. ii, 29. Kom W, No. 14.—Cooking Pot in coarse rough-faced red-brown ware, irregularly fired; the pot crumbled upon removal from midden and could not be preserved. Rim found just beneath surface.

- Pl. ii, 30. Kom W, No. 8.—Cooking Bowl in rough-faced red ware, mottled black by unequal firing; traces of a ferruginous slip; thickness at rim about 0.25 i., standing 8 i. beneath surface on its base in a patch of ashes. (Figured and described in *Man*, Oct., 1925, Pl. K, No. 1.) (U.C.)
- Pl. ii, 31. Kom W-C II.—Cooking Bowl in rough-faced brown-red ware, mottled grey; traces of a ferruginous external polish; thickness of rim about 0.3 i. Found on the fringe of sand-dunes near Kom W, inverted, the base just visible. The pot was too much disintegrated to preserve.
- Pl. ii, 32. Kom W, No. 2.—Cooking Bowl in coarse rough-faced red ware, disintegrated surface, and beyond preservation; thickness of rim 0.47 i. The outline of the rim was just visible in the midden surface.
- Pl. iii, 33. Kom W, P 98/15.—Small Cooking Pot in rough-faced pinky-grey ware, mottled by irregular firing. Thickness at rim about 0.4 i. Placed 21 i. beneath surface, and about 3 f. above bottom level. Contained several small fish vertebrae. (B.M., 58688.)
- Pl. iii, 34; x, 5. Kom W, J 85/19.—Small Cooking Pot in rough-faced red ware, mottled grey; thickness at rim about 0.47 i.; rim disintegrated. Found about 4 i. beneath surface and 5 f. 6 i. above bottom level; contained 3 *Spatha* shells and fragment of an unidentifiable mammal-bone. (U.C.)
- Pl. iii, 35. Kom K, C 94/15.—Small Cooking Pot in coarse rough-faced red ware, mottled grey; disintegrated rim. Lying 9 i. beneath surface and about 6 i. above bottom level. (Tokio Museum.)
- Pl. iii, 36. Kom W, J 75/10.—Cooking Pot in coarse rough-faced pinky-buff ware; standing on its base, the rim at surface-level eroded away.
- Pl. iii, 37; x, 3. Kom W, H 80/15.—Small Cooking Pot, with asymmetric constricted top in coarse rough-faced red and grey mottled ware. The rim was 2 f. beneath surface, the base resting on midden bottom at 3 f. The polished effect of the surface in the photograph (Pl. x, 3) is due to paraffin wax. Contained a sheep or goat scapula. (Kioto Museum.)
- Pl. x, 2. Kom W, I 54/11.—Cooking Pot, similar in form to preceding, but larger, in coarse red-brown ware. The surface shows the presence of a finer brown slip; this has perished in places, exposing the crumbling, badly fired core. Found standing upon its base on midden bottom, which at this point was only 2 f. deep. Contained longitudinally cracked splinters of some small mammal. The pot, which was little more than powder consolidated by salt, fell to pieces, before it was drawn, in the moisture-charged atmosphere of a Fayûm desert night.
- Pl. iii, 38. Kom W, H 95/17.—Cooking Pot in coarse rough-faced pink ware, with dark mottling due to uneven firing; the polished appearance in Pl. x, 7, is due to paraffin wax. Lying 26 i. beneath surface, on its side, little above bottom level. Contained some fish-bones. (Hancock Museum, Newcastle.)
- Pl. iii, 39; vi, 2. Kom W, O 100/20.—Cooking Pot in coarse rough-faced red ware. Found standing upon its base resting on midden bottom, the rim 1 f. beneath surface. Contained fish vertebrae. (Cairo Museum.)
- Pl. iv, 40; x, i. Kom W, O 104/20.—Cooking Pot in rough-faced red ware mottled by uneven firing. Found standing on its base 14 f. from O 100/20, the rim 17 i. beneath the surface, and the base resting on midden bottom. (Ashmolean.)

PLATE II.

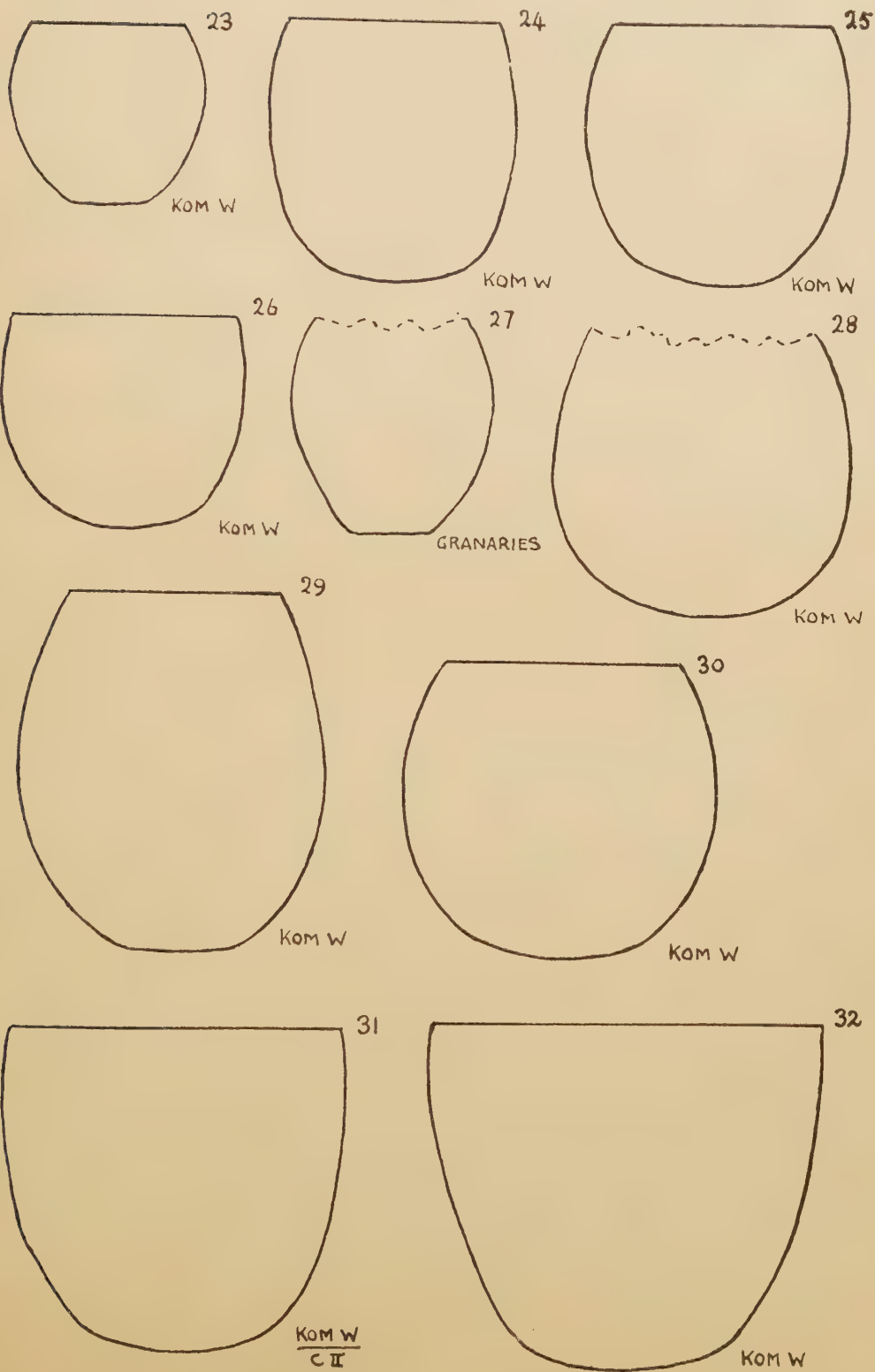


PLATE III.

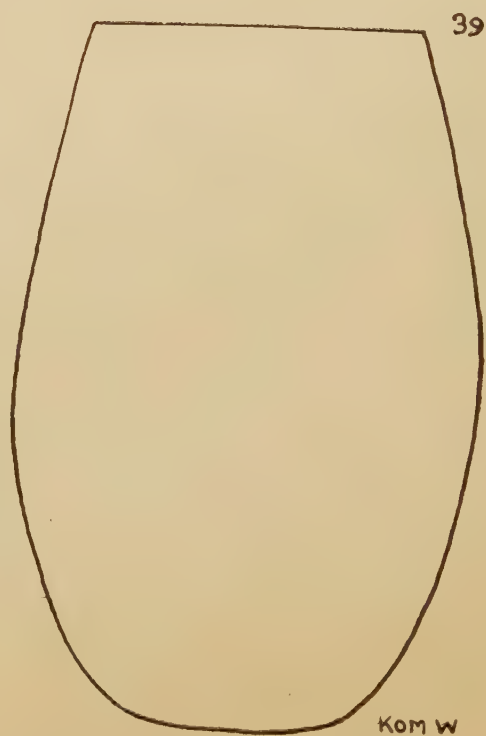
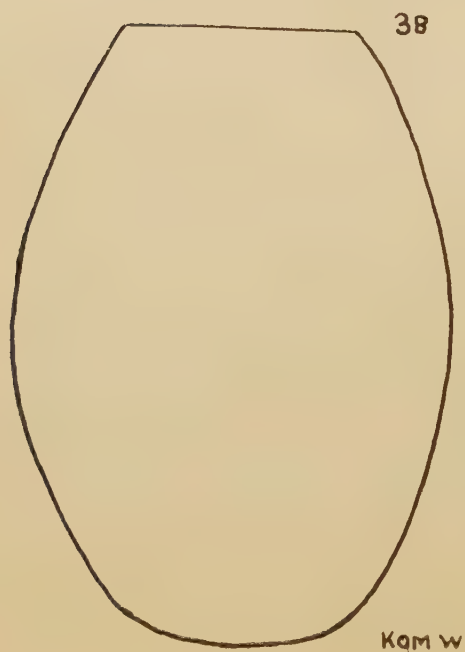
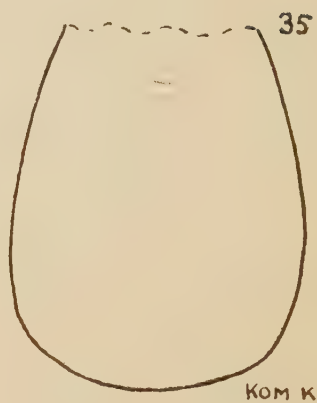
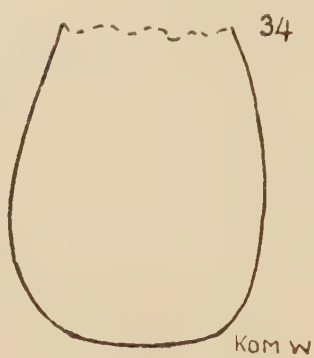
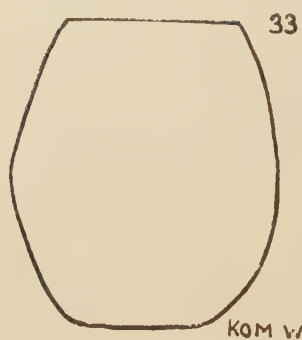
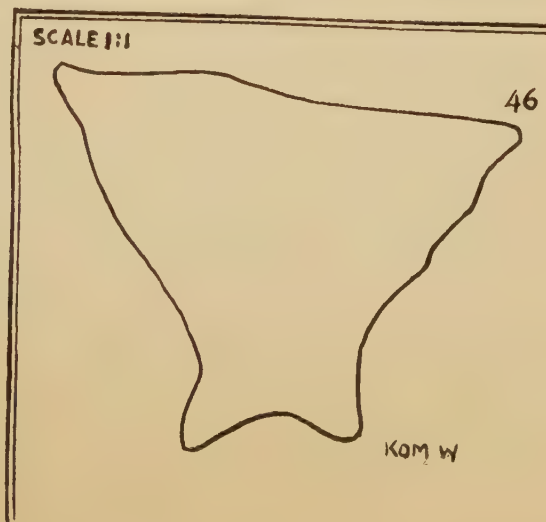
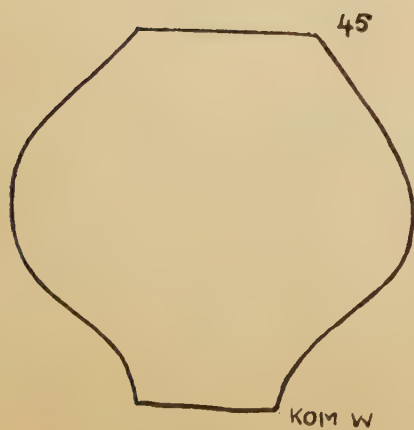
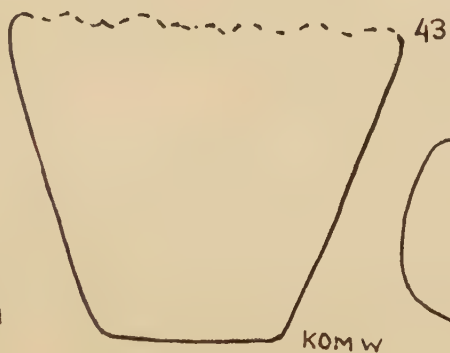
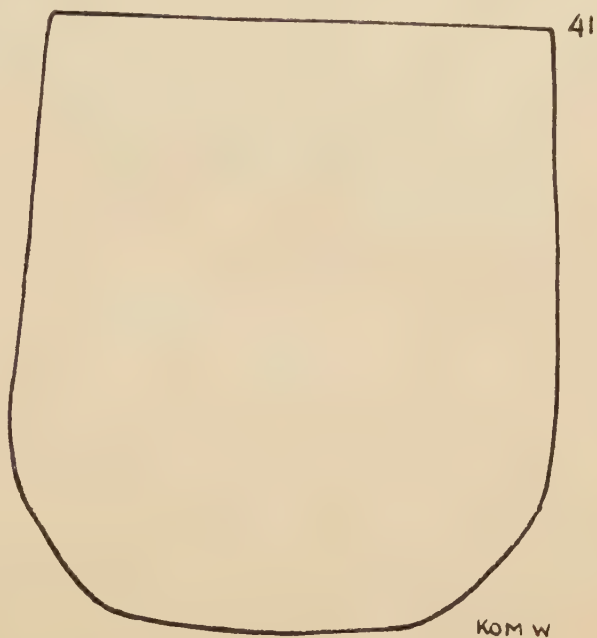
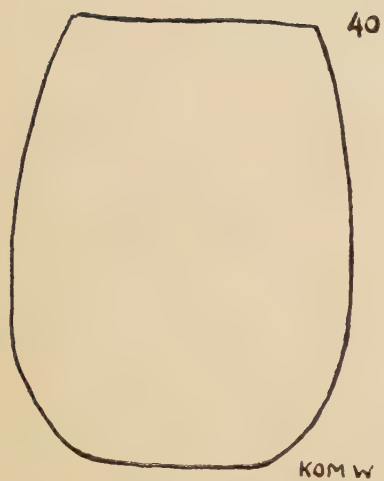
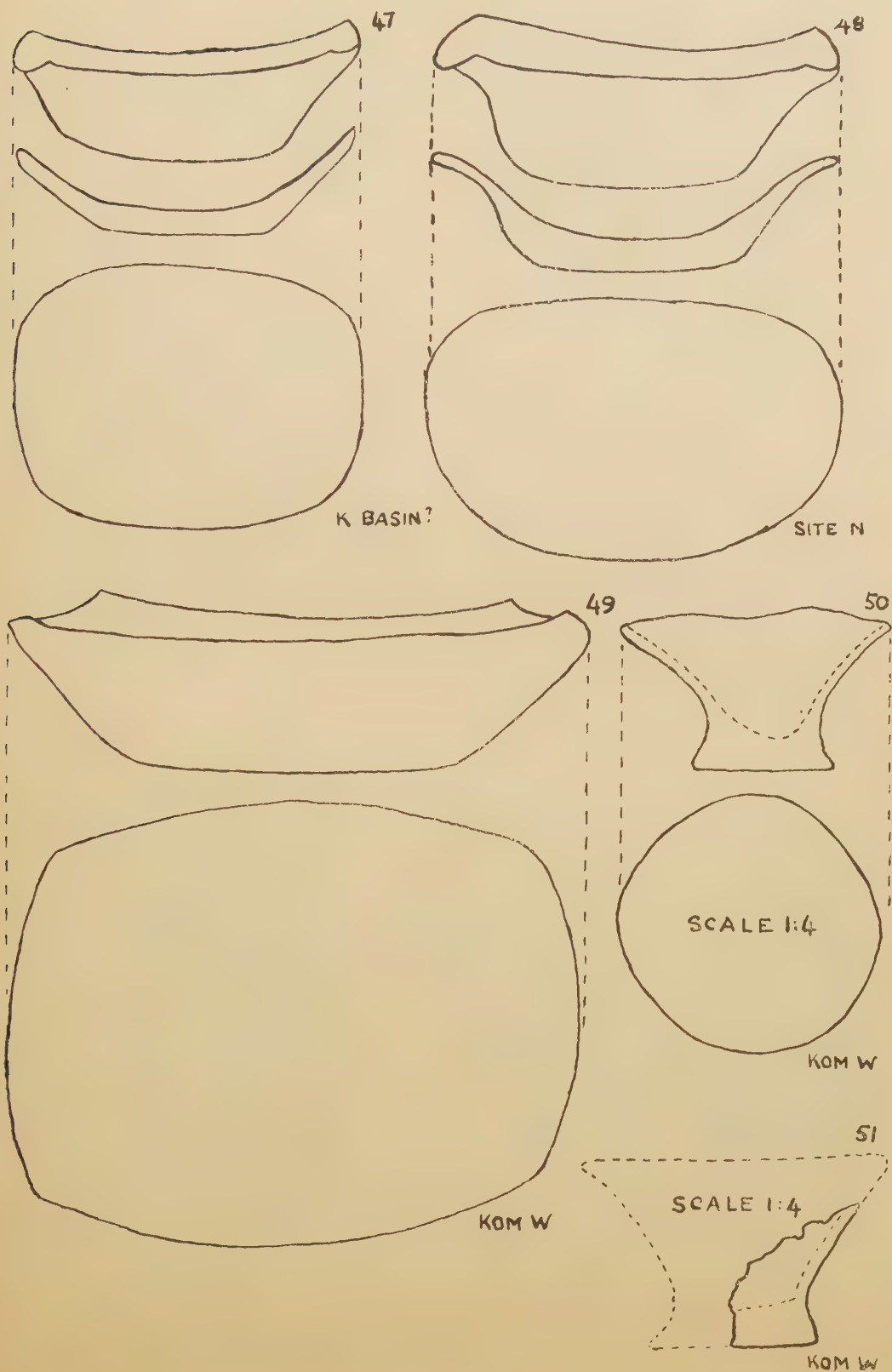


PLATE IV.



- Pl. iv, 41; x, 6. Kom W, N 96/20.—Cooking Pot in coarse rough-faced red-brown ware, badly cracked; asymmetric rim, diameter 17 by 15 i. The rim was found 9 i. beneath surface, standing upright in a charcoal-blackened hearth, with the base resting on midden bottom. (Bolton Museum.)
- Pl. iv, 42. Dimê M 93.—Cooking Pot in hard, compact, coarse, dark-brown rough-faced ware; the fabric is dissimilar to the other pots, and may be proto-dynastic, as some remains of this period were obtained in the vicinity; on the other hand, its form approximates to fig. 43, which is indisputably Fayûm Neolithic. Found on the outskirts of a large Neolithic settlement, standing on its base in clean sand little below the surface. (U.C.)
- Pl. iv, 43. Kom W, R 98/1.—Cooking Pot in dark-red ware with ferruginous external polish, much cracked, and no rim. Lying 6 i. beneath surface, and about 4 f. above bottom level. (U.C.)
- Pl. iv, 44. Lower K Granary, No. 103.—Pot of curious shape with flattened asymmetrically footed base, in rough-faced red-brown ware; thickness at rim 0·3 i.; much disintegrated and not kept. Found inside a mud-lined silo, diameter 7 f., at a depth of 3 f. 4 i.; a sherd of another pot was with it.
- Pl. iv, 45. Kom W, P 98/6.—Pot of curious form, very asymmetric, in coarse red-brown ware; possibly the sides collapsed in firing; the neck is constricted and the footed base recalls fig. 44. It was lying 2 f. beneath surface and about 2 f. 6 i. above bottom level. (Manchester Museum.)
- Pl. iv, 46. Kom W, I 102/0.—Small four-legged Cup in pinky-buff rough-faced ware, very asymmetric. Lying 39 i. beneath surface and about 16 i. above bottom level. (B.M., 58690.)
- Pl. v, 47; viii, 1. K Basin (?).—Rectangular Dish in coarse rough-faced brown-red ware; the four corners of the rim are less pronounced than the normal. The dish was brought in by a workman, who found it with the rim just protruding above the surface. (At present in possession of the R.A.I.)
- Pl. v, 48; viii, 2. N. Site.—Rectangular Dish in coarse rough-faced brown-red ware; the corners of the rim are typically "peaked." Found, partially covered by detritus, on a ledge of sand-rock formed by old lake-beds, the centre of an important Neolithic surface site. Height 195 f. above present lake level. It contained 12 valves of *Spatha caillaudi*, lumps of red ochre, 2 quartz pebbles bruised at extremities, and 2 rough flint cores. Thickness at rim about 0·23 i. (Figured and described in *Man.*, Oct., 1925, Pl. K, 2.) (U.C.)
- Pl. v, 49; viii, 3. Kom W, M 125/3.—Large rectangular Dish in coarse red ware; the interior shows remains of a ferruginous plum-coloured wash with horizontal polishing down to 3 i. to 3·5 i. below rim; the exterior is mottled from black to pale brick-red. The dish was about two-thirds complete. The photograph on Pl. viii, 3, shows a reconstructed surface, and that on Pl. xi, 21, shows the interior of the dish. Lying 27 i. beneath surface and practically upon bottom level; the dish was on the edge of a well-marked hearth with sherds and a pig canine. (B.M., 58687.)
- Pl. v, 50; vii, 9. Kom W, L 40/1.—Pedestalled Cup in coarse rough-faced red-grey ware; thickness at rim about 0·4 i. It was 16 i. beneath surface and about 14 i. above bottom level. (B.M., 58689.)

PLATE V.



- Pl. v, 51. Kom W, J 100/2.—Pedestalled Cup, portion of base only in rough-faced red-brown ware. Level, 3 f. beneath surface and about 1 f. above base, in the upper filling of a pit. (U.C.)
- Pl. ix, 1. Dimê Area.—Small Vase, black polished, in hard, well-fired ware, decorated with closely distributed wedge-shaped punches; the polish is carried over on to the inside of the neck. The vase, which was found lying in surface sand, is extremely weathered, and the original black burnished surface survives in patches on one side only. The paste is compact, and dark grey in colour. Age unknown. (U.C.)
- Pl. ix, 2. Kom W, S 146/16.—Rim fragment in dark-grey unpolished ware, with 4 "studs" set on the rim edge; thickness about 0.25 i. This was 3 f. 3 i. beneath surface, and about 10 i. above bottom level. (U.C.)
- Pl. ix, 3. Badari 5200.—Rim fragment in red-brown unpolished ware with smoky black patches; 3 "studs" set 0.35 i. below the rim; the interior shows horizontal striae; the ware is fairly well fired; thickness 0.3 i. (U.C.)

Sherds.

Those figured are all at University College. Great quantities were found at the two principal midden-mounds; a selection of these were brought to England and distributed amongst twenty-two museums receiving type sets of associated flint implements. Many sherds await final allocation on application.

- Pl. xi, 1. Kom W, J 79/3.—Interior aspect of "peaked" rim. It shows an eroded plum-coloured ferruginous slip, extending over the rim and with traces on the outer surface; black, soft core; thickness about 0.4 i. Lying 3 f. 9 i. beneath the surface on bottom level.
- Pl. xi, 2. Kom W, H 100/14.—Interior aspect of "peaked" rim, with plum-coloured slip as before, confined to interior only; the outer side is rough-faced red-brown; the broken section shows a black, soft core 0.25 i. thick, sandwiched between 0.15 i. of brown; total thickness 0.5 i. At 32 i. from surface, and 15 i. above bottom level.
- Pl. xi, 3. Kom W, F 95/20.—Exterior aspect of "peaked" rim in mottled grey and red rough-faced ware; no certain traces of a red slip, though indications are present of "wet hand" smoothing of the surface; the ware is better fired, with a brown core; thickness 0.43 i. At 6 i. beneath surface and about 9 i. above bottom level.
- Pl. xi, 4. Kom W, F 95/18.—Exterior aspect of "peaked" rim; colour grey, rough-faced; interior red-brown; no slip; a finger imprint remains where the thumb squeezed the clay into the "peak"; black, friable core; thickness 0.55 i. Level unknown.
- Pl. xi, 5. Kom W, F 55/16.—Exterior aspect of "peaked" rim, in rough-faced red-brown ware with black friable core; thickness 0.6 i. From a shallow area only 12 i. deep.
- Pl. xi, 6. Kom W, number obliterated.—Exterior aspect of "peaked" rim with traces of ferruginous slip on both sides; black core; thickness 0.43 i.
- Pl. xi, 7. Kom W, Q 119/19.—Exterior aspect of "peaked" rim in rough-faced grey-brown ware, smooth, but not apparently slipped; thickness 0.47 i. At 3 f. beneath surface, in the top contents of a pit.

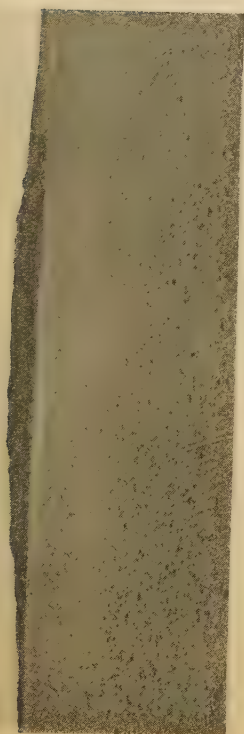
PLATE VI.



KOM W. COOKING POTS O $\frac{100}{20}$ AND $\frac{104}{20}$ IN SITU.



KOM W. EXCAVATIONS, SHOWING POT EMERGING IN SECOND LAYER.

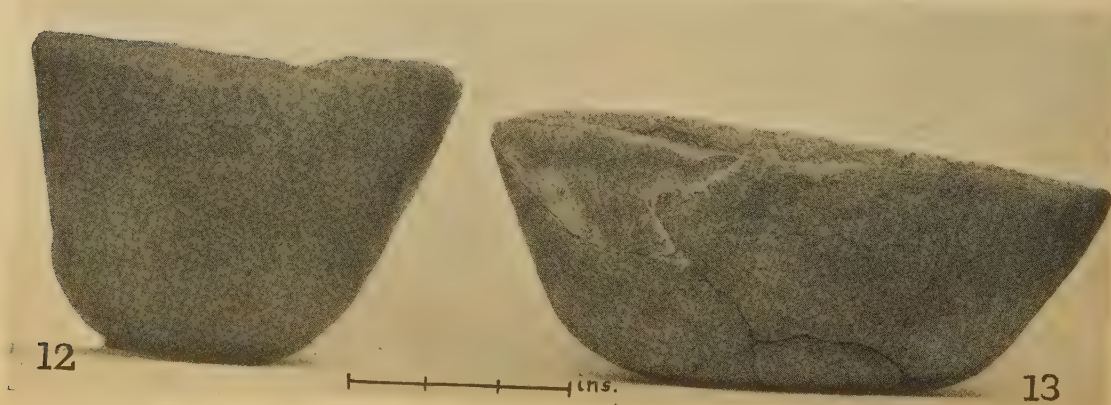


KOM W. FROM THE EAST AFTER EXCAVATION.



KOM W. COOKING POT N 96/20 IN PLACE.

PLATE VII.



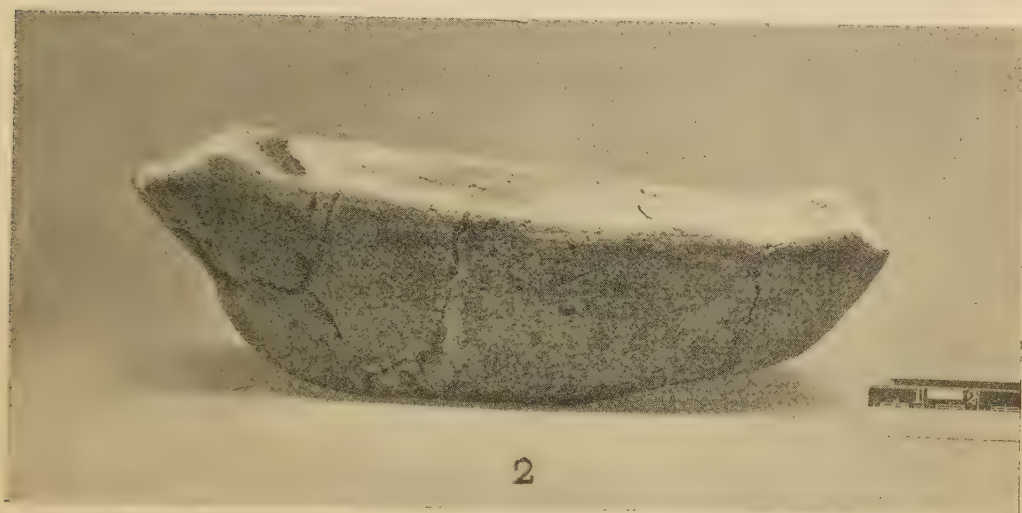
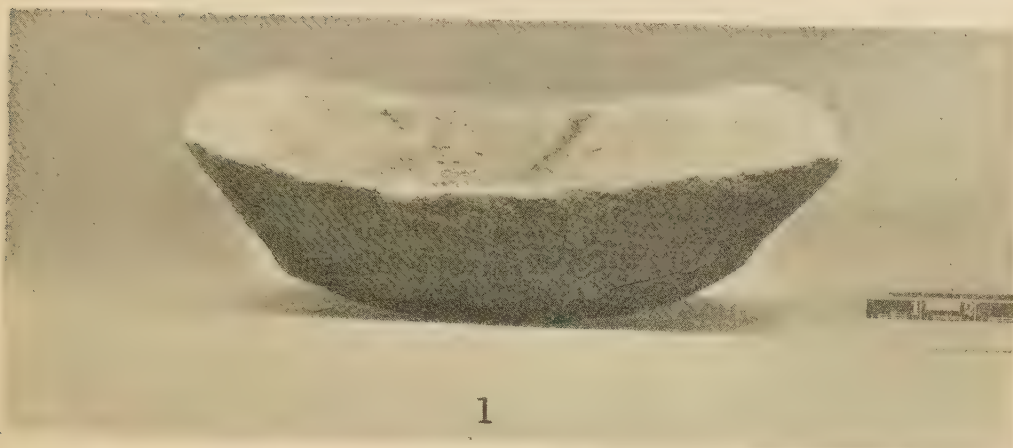


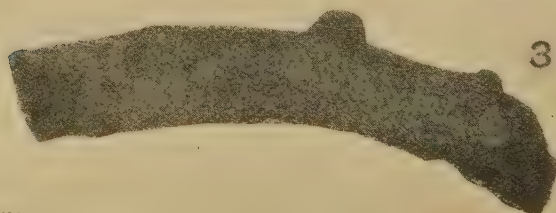
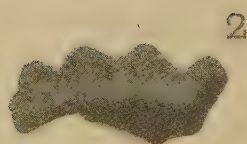
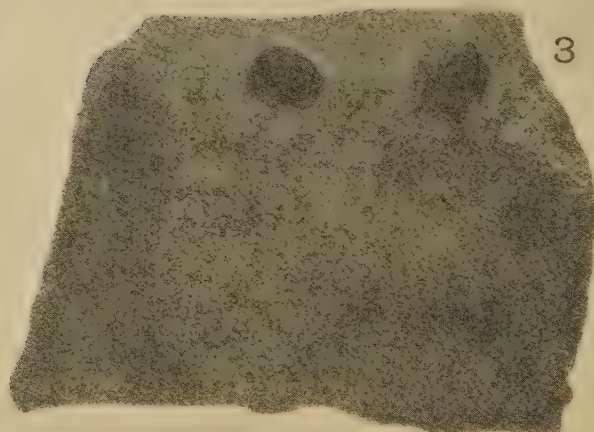
PLATE IX.



DIMÉ, WEST OF

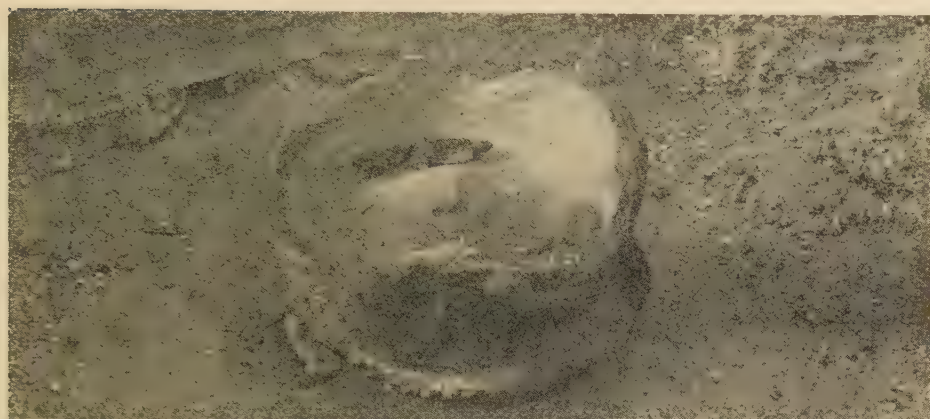


SCALE 3:4

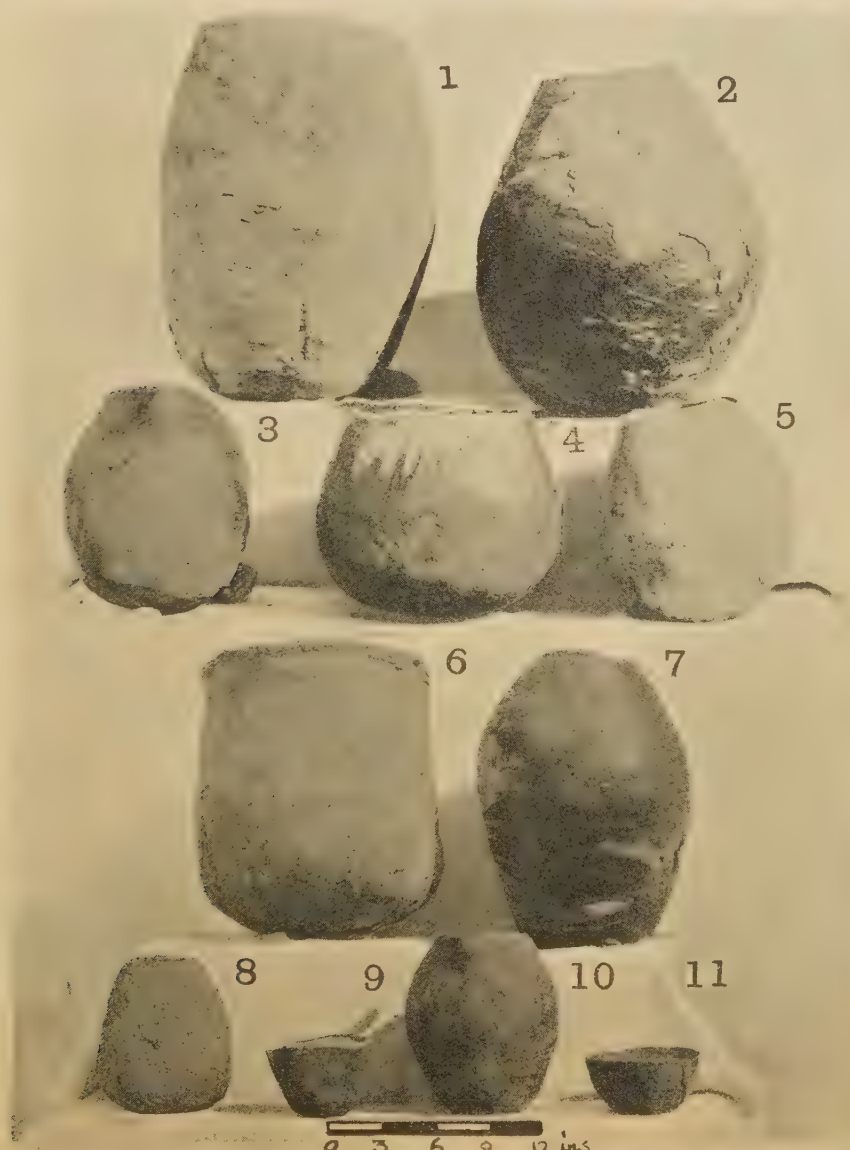


KOM W. FAYUM.

BADARIAN.



GRANARY SITE FRAGMENTARY POT STANDING UPON A STRAW PLATTER.



COOKING POTS AND BOWLS FROM MIDDENS.

- Pl. xi, 8. Kom. W, J 122/5.—Interior aspect of "peaked" rim, showing ferruginous plum-coloured slip extending over rim; outer face rough-faced; black core; thickness 0.55 i. At 3 f. beneath surface, practically on bottom level. The sherd probably belongs to J 79/3 (Pl. xi, 1).
- Pl. xi, 9. Kom W, N 100/8.—Exterior aspect of "peaked" rim in rough-faced mottled grey and red-brown ware with salt-disintegrated surface; interior shows horizontal pressure ribbing; coarse black core; thickness 0.5 i. At 9 i. beneath surface and 18 i. above bottom level.
- Pl. xi, 10. Kom W, M 123/17.—Exterior aspect of "peaked" rim in rough-faced mottled brown and grey ware; the interior is smoothed but not slipped, and shows horizontal striae; thickness 0.47 i. At 2 f. beneath surface, little above bottom level.
- Pl. xi, 11. Upper K Granaries, No. 64.—Exterior aspect of highly polished black ware of globular form; interior dark grey, unpolished; black, coarse core, with much straw in the composition; thickness, max. 0.67 i., min. 0.27 i. From interior of small straw-lined silo, together with the complete cup (Pl. I, 13).
- Pl. xi, 12. Kom W, H 105/19.—Rim of black polished vase; unpolished black interior, with imprint of straw *dégraissant*; thickness 0.2 i. Though finer ware than the preceding, the black polished texture is similar. At 3 f. beneath surface and 9 i. above bottom level.
- Pl. xi, 13 and 14. Kom W, H 110/15.—Two fragments of rim of very small vase, black polished on both sides; thickness 0.15 i. At 3 f. beneath surface and 6 i. above bottom level.
- Pl. xi, 15. Kom W, G 110/10.—Exterior aspect of fine red-polished ware; interior is rough-faced red; the ferruginous slip is similar to that used on the coarser wares; thickness 0.25 i. At 27 i. beneath surface and about 4 i. above bottom level.
- Pl. xi, 16 and 17. Kom W, R 135/17.—Two fragments showing exterior aspect of rim of small vase; the ferruginous plum-coloured slip extends over both sides; well-fired brown core; thickness 0.25 i. At 4 f. 3 i. beneath surface in the top filling of a pit.
- Pl. xi, 18. Kom W, H 100/5.—Exterior aspect of rim with rivet-hole; plum-coloured slip extending over to the interior; well-fired brown paste; thickness 0.3 i. At 18 i. beneath surface, and 28 i. above bottom level.
- Pl. xi, 19. Kom W, R 135/19.—Exterior aspect of rim in light pink-buff ware, with a fine, smooth, slightly burnished surface; this does not seem to be due to an applied slip, but is probably the automatic result of the "wet hand" technique; black core, more compact paste than most; thickness 0.27 i. At 5 f. 6 i. beneath surface, at base of a pit which contained also remains of a large coarse cooking bowl.
- Pl. xi, 20. Kom W, K 108/10.—Rim in coarse rough-faced red-brown ware, with a round boss projecting about 0.3 i.; black core; thickness about 0.4 i. At 3 f. beneath surface and about 6 i. above bottom level.

To Mr. Harding and Mrs. Benson, and to the late Mr. A. Hayter, my thanks are due for outline drawings of much of the pottery.

G. CATON-THOMPSON.



REVIEWS.

Introduction au Catalogue des Intailles et Empreintes Égyptiennes. By L. SPELEERS. 8vo. 74 pp., 6 pls. 1927. (De Meester, Watteren.) N. P.

In this general account of the scarabs and cylinders, most aspects of the subject are noticed, and nearly 400 examples in the Royal Museum at Brussels are figured. Unhappily, they are so much reduced and so indistinctly printed that the good intention of the author is not carried out. The most interesting part of this monograph relates to the button badges. They are dated rather too early; as in Mahasna, which is quoted, they are only found with alabaster vases of the VIth dynasty, or later. The scarabs with the name of Mena are not accredited to his age by any writer. The case is quite different with the scarabs of Sneferu, which have a spelling that is only known in his reign. The little scarabs of Nebka are so much more primitive that they may well be a few reigns earlier. Regarding the late examples of the names, User-maat-ra and Men-ka-ra, they obviously may belong to the later kings who bore those names, and the same is true of many of the late examples of Men-kheper-ra. It may be noted that the so-called Hyksos style is Palestinian as late as the XIXth dynasty. These cautions may help the readers of this interesting pamphlet.

Dramatische Texte zu Altaegyptischen Mysterienspielen. By PROF. KURT SETHE. 80 pp. 1928. (Leipzig: Hinrichs.) N. P.

The tenth volume of the *Untersuchungen zur Geschichte und Altertumskunde Aegyptens* is devoted to the Egyptian Mystery Plays, of which one hears so much and knows so little. Professor Sethe begins the series with the well-known stele in the British Museum, already published by Breasted under the title of the Philosophy of a Memphite Priest. Professor Sethe gives an account of the text, discussing its age and its content, and the difficult matter of the connection and division of the lines. He suggests that the drama of the division of the land of Egypt between Horus and Seth was played before the eyes of the people, and that the short sentences of the inscription were read out by the "producer" and served the same purpose as the captions of the films.

When Prof. Sethe undertakes to translate a text, one may be certain that no point of grammar will be left untouched, no detail of the script left unnoted. The volume is a monument of immense knowledge and of meticulous care. It contains a mass of important grammatical material, supported in every case by copious references to other texts; it is therefore a book which every student of the language must possess. Besides the grammatical notes there is a very great amount of information on obscure priesthoods and other matters, as, for instance, the -priest of Anubis, a title known as early as the Old Kingdom.

Again, on the subject of the god  of Memphis, who is usually said to be "a form of Ptah," Prof. Sethe has much to say. One of the most interesting notes is on the emblem of Neith, the shield and crossed arrows, which is in this inscription the determinative of the word , and apparently is some

form of spirit or daemon in apposition with the , both of whom are connected with the god . It is not often possible to make a suggestion to so great a master of the subject as Prof. Sethe, but there is one point which has apparently not occurred to him but to which Prof. Petrie has already called attention, and that is the name of Memphis. This is not "The White Wall," but the "Fortress of the Mace." The smiting of an enemy chief was a religious ceremonial; Samuel, for instance, hewed Agag in pieces *before the Lord*; and the weapon used must originally have been sacred. Narmer smites his enemy with a mace, and later inspects the ten human victims of the sacrifice. The mace is not shown in action in any early representations of battle-fields, which is a suggestion that it was the sacrificial weapon. Prof. Sethe's volume is one of the most important which has appeared during the last few years, and all scholars look forward to a continuation of the series.

M. A. MURRAY.

Archiv. für Orientforschung. III. Part I.

The only paper of Egyptological interest in this number is "Zum Mythus und zur Gestalt des Osiris," by G. van der Leeuw. Though very short, it contains many interesting suggestions. Dr. van der Leeuw accepts Breasted's theory that Osiris began as the terrifying Death-god, a "Quälgeist," tracing the development of the human attributes, and finally raising him to heaven. He considers Osiris a combination of Khenti-Amentiu, the tree-god of the *Ded*-pillar, and the god of the "new water," *i.e.* the inundation; the filiation to Nut being an addition of the theologians of Heliopolis. To Dr. van der Leeuw the priesthood played a great part in the development of the Osiris belief, but he acknowledges that the true history of the development of the Egyptian religion has yet to be written. Here he is looking for the unattainable, as the clash of the foreign Sun-worship with the long-established Osiris-cult, which is indicated in the Pyramid Texts, cannot be written unless our present knowledge of that early period is increased a hundredfold.

M. A. MURRAY.

Imhotep the Vizier and Physician of King Zoser. By Dr. J. B. HURRY. 8vo. 197 pp., 26 pls. (Milford.) 1928. 10s. 6d.

The first edition of this book was noticed in this Journal (1926, p. 126); it is now issued enlarged to half as much again, including the connection with the discoveries at Saqqarah. All references to Imhotep are described, with full statement of the sources; every care has been given to collecting the material and placing it as clearly as may be before readers who are not Egyptologists. The outlines of Egyptian medicine are fully traced, from a professional point of view, and this may well serve as a guide to the literature of the subject. It is to be hoped that more may be found about Imhotep in connection with the works of king Zoser, so a further edition may yet be looked for. In future, a few points need attention. The Indian stupas are so long after Zoser that no connection with his pyramid can be expected. Heroonpolis was not the "city of heroes," but of the god of the Thracian mercenaries. Incubation was carefully studied by Mary Hamilton of St. Andrews, whose book (1906) is the main authority. The decay of Egypt was due to the constant extortions of Rome, and was terrible long before the prevalence of monasticism.

JOURNALS.

Bulletin of the Metropolitan Museum, New York, June, 1928.

LANSING, A.—*Accessions to the Egyptian Collection.* Much of the building stone used in the erection of the Pyramid of Amenemhat I (at Lisht) had been taken from mastabas and pyramids of the Old Kingdom, including many fine examples of sculpture from the core of the pyramid and from the foundations of its temple. The whole mastaba of Perneb was granted to the Metropolitan Museum by the Government. Some fine wooden statues have also been obtained thus, one of which is illustrated here of Ka-em-senu in the VIth dynasty, and the remaining wall of his tomb has also been obtained. Some smaller additions are also figured.

Zeitschrift für Ägyptische Sprache. Vol. LXII, Part 2. 1927.

KEES, H.—*Ein Klagelied, über das Jenseits.* This article deals with the tomb of one *Nfr-šhw*, the only New Kingdom tomb with scenes and texts among those near Sauiet el-Meitin (Kom el-Ahmar) in the old 16th nome of Upper Egypt. This tomb may be included in a group of well-known tombs which were influenced by the art of Tell el-Amarna, the choice of scenes and texts confirming this placing. Two laments over the mummy by the wife of the deceased claim attention, as they belong to a literary type which is very characteristic of the period, expressing sentiments which are sharply at variance with contemporary official beliefs: The grave "is deep and dark, without door or window, without light. . . . There the sun rises not, and they lie the whole time in darkness."

BEHNK, FRIDA.—*Lexikalische Beiträge zur ägyptisch-semitischen Sprachvergleichung.* With all due caution, the writer submits a list of thirty-six Semitic equivalents for Egyptian words.

GUNN, BATTISCOMBE.—The word . This word occurs twice, expressing an antithesis, in a passage in the *Instruction of Amenope* (1916-17). The passage was dealt with by Sethe in the *Göttingen Nachrichten (Phil.-hist. Klasse)*, 1925; it means "Man proposes, God disposes." Gunn detects in the word a disguised form of the word *wi³·tw*, used here as an idiom meaning "separate," "of one kind": "The words that men say are of one kind, the acts of God are of another kind."

SCHARFF, ALEXANDER.—*Ein Denkstein der römischen Kaiserzeit aus Achmim.* This article deals with a stele (Inv. 22489) recently acquired by the Berlin Museum, which bears the name of the Emperor Hadrian (A.D. 117-38). The stele is in a bad state of preservation, nevertheless the execution of the reliefs and the inscription reveals great skill in rendering the traditional Egyptian style, even at so late a date. Six of the seven gods represented fall into two triads: Osiris, Isis, and Horus; Min, Triphis, and Kolanthes (a rare god, here called the

son of Isis and Osiris, and "the great first heir" of Min). The seventh god is Haroeris, Lord of Letopolis, who is, perhaps, associated with these on account of the similarity in name between his city and Achmim; he is described as being  , "a guest in" Achmim. In his titulary, Hadrian is called "the young man from foreign lands" (*hwnw-h³s·wt*).

SCHÄFER, H.—*Das sogenannte "Blut der Isis" und das Zeichen "Leben."* The  and the  signs are frequently associated with a symbolical meaning in New Kingdom ornament, and the combination has long been supposed to represent Isis and Horus. Schäfer believes, however, that such was not the original meaning of the signs; he considers that they were originally word signs used symbolically, and that  was merely another form of the object which was taken to represent the idea of "life," which is usually rendered by .

SETHE, K.—*Die Jahresrechnung unter Ramses II und der Namenwechsel dieses Königs.* Rameses II may now be included among those monarchs of the New Kingdom who reckoned by regnal years (beginning with the day of accession) not by the calendar. The original form of his name was *Wsr-m³·t-r°*. It seems likely that *stp-n-r°* was added invariably and inseparably to the original name between the 10th day of Epiphi and the 23rd day of Phaophi in the first year of his reign, an intermediate form being *Wsr-m³·t-r°* with varying epithets. It is also probable that the original form of the name cannot have been in use alone for more than the first four months of his reign, the intermediate form not for more than the first six or seven months. In this short span Rameses II cannot have been responsible for all the buildings which bear the old forms of his name; he must merely have completed in many cases his father's work.

TILL, WALTER.—*Achmimische Berichtigungen und Ergänzungen zu Spiegelbergs Handwörterbuch.* This article consists of some 15 pages of corrections and addenda to Spiegelberg's Coptic *Handwörterbuch*. These were rendered necessary by a comparison of Wessely's edition of the Achmimic version of the Minor Prophets with portions of the original MS. which is preserved in the National Library at Vienna.

SETHE contributes an obituary notice of Aaron Ember, Professor of Egyptology at the Johns Hopkins University, who died in June, 1926. He succumbed to injuries received in rescuing from the fire, in which his house was burnt down, the MS. of a book which he was about to publish on the affinities between the Egyptian and Semitic languages.

There is also a short obituary notice of Edouard Naville.

L. B. E.

Syria. VIII.

MONTET, P.—*Un Egyptien, roi de Byblos.* Of the Royal tombs of Byblos, Nos. I–III were found intact, No. IV was robbed probably in 1852, Nos. V–IX were robbed anciently. Two scarabs were brought from Byblos shortly after the tomb IV was opened. They are of "*ropa hat* Amapa, son of Mezer-tebt-atf," and of the "mistress of the house Sat-user." Strangely, the parentage is reversed in the translation by M. Montet, and Amapa is taken as the father:

the examples in *Scarabs XIII*, AP, of Neferhetep and of Sebekhetep, show that columns are read in the same order as on steles, the father's name afterward. In the robbed tomb IV a scrap of inscribed alabaster vase of a prince of Byblos was lately found, but the name is effaced, and the remains ending . . . *tuf* will not agree with either of the names on these scarabs, though it is here restored as if it did so. The form of the mat *p* is a new variant, a square vertically divided in halves, with three sloping lines on the second half. This paper is important, and can be had separately from Geuthner at 5 frs.

DUNAND, M.—*La cinquième campagne des fouilles de Byblos*. Remains of a paved area joining the two temples was discovered. Upon this stood a block of masonry, in both the north and south faces of which was a hollow, closed by a slab. In each hollow was a wide-mouthed jar, most like the forms *Kahun*, xxi, 64, and *Harageh*, xliv, 38 M, of the XVIIth–XVIIIth dynasties. These each contained sixty little bronze figures of warriors; there were also three small bulls, and one little vase with handle and lip. The second jar is stated to be like a pre-semitic form (*see* Macalister). The whole is dated by M. Montet to between the Old and Middle Kingdom. Various objects are briefly stated to have been found at the same level, but are not illustrated. A seated female figure is of a private person, inscribed to Hathor, who is in Kpn (Byblos). There is much confusion of periods owing to the ancient removal of the paving.

In the Old Kingdom stratum is abundant pottery, with cord round the neck, polished red, and with yellow or brown facing, many inscriptions of Pepy I and II, and a fragment with name of Khufu. The neighbouring cemetery has been partly searched; jars were found containing unfleshed bones; in one were those of three adults and a child, in another two adults. These multiple burials suggest reburial after decomposition.

PILLET, M.—*Le temple de Byblos*. This account gives a detailed plan, and a discussion of the view of the temple on a coin of Macrinus, A.D. 217–18, treated more fully in a following paper. It is assumed that the entrance was from the east, the cemetery of the kings lying to the west of the temple, close to the shore. A difficulty is, however, that the lower parts of four statues stand on either side of a doorway on the east side of the wide court on the west. As statues in Egypt always flank an entrance, this points to the entrance being from the west. If the approach was from the east, the statues must be regarded as standing in adoration, looking toward the shrine across the wide open court. The statues are only preserved up to the knee, and are in clumsy imitation of Egyptian style.

DUSSAUD, R.—*Note additionelle*. This note discusses the temple plan. The great pavement on the west is compared with the court of the temple at Jerusalem; a circular walling on the south is supposed to be for a *hanafiye*, or *Great Sea*, as at Jerusalem; it is about 16 feet across. Yet it is proposed that the entrance was on the north, while the use of a *hanafiye* is for ablution before entering the shrine, like the tanks at Serabit. Altogether there are reasons for each quarter being the front; much wider clearance of surroundings is needed, to understand the plan. The coin with a figure of the temple is figured, and a drawing of restoration is given. It seems to have been a large peristyle court, surrounding a conical stone on a square base; the entrance has a portico, decastyle, and there was also a porch entrance at the side. The account of

restoration by the king Yehavmilk describes a gold disc over the entrance, probably the Egyptian winged sun. The questions of the orientation of the temple are further considered with regard to the two entrances, one in the main axis of the court, the other at the side. Lastly, M. Dussaud decides for the statues having flanked the entrance to the *hekel*, and the sanctuary facing westwards.

CUQ, E.—*Condition Juridique de la Coelé-Syrie au temps de Ptolémée V.* This paper discusses the constitution of the region of Palestine and Southern Syria when it was given by Antiochos III as the marriage portion of Cleopatra, his daughter, 193 B.C.

In the reviews of this number, M. DUSSAUD deals with some important questions. He favours the derivation of the name Phoenician from *phoinix*, red, equivalent to *erythros*, which he connects with the Erythraean, or Red Sea, as referring to their origin. The *phoinix*, palm-tree, is therefore discarded as an etymology. Yet he agrees that the palm grows as far north as Beyrut, and points to changes in the vegetation elsewhere, and leaves the question debatable. A bronze lance-head with two lines of Phoenician, was evidently cast from a wax model. It is assigned to the 12th or 13th century, and raises questions about the forms of the letters. The spiked form of Hittite bronze axe, found at Beisan, is figured.

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DUNAND, M.—*La sixième campagne des fouilles de Byblos.* The amiable director of the excavations gives a detailed account of the method of this excavation, which shows a welcome change in the system of observation, on which remarks have often been made in the past.

DU BUISSON, MESNIL.—*L'ancienne Qatna.* In the account of this site near Homs, the sphinx of the Princess Ata of the XIIth dynasty is described. It had been shattered in dozens of fragments, well reconstructed; but the material is not stated. Pieces of Cretan vases of Late Minoan style were found, and an Egyptian lotus bowl; otherwise the results are purely Semitic.

In the reviews, more than five pages are given to an analysis of Dr. Frankfort's studies on pottery.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE excavation of the hill city of Beth-pelet (Tell Fara) is being continued this winter, especially on the northern end of the hill where probably lies the fortress of the Pelethites. The work will be carried on by the Hon. Director, with Mr. and Mrs. Starkey, Mr. Harding, Miss Tufnell, and a new student, Mr. O. H. Myers. There is also the promise of the kind help of Dr. Parker, as at Gerar. The cost of such wide clearances, which are necessary for scientific results, will be very heavy; and Lady Petrie remains behind in order to collect funds. All who care for the links of Egypt with Palestine, and for Old Testament history, should help forward the revealing of this important residence of the royal bodyguard of Pelethites.

Miss Caton-Thompson is going to South Africa, to take up the problems of the prehistoric age there. The meeting of the British Association next summer in that land will attract attention to the archaeological importance of Africa. Some explorers recently have assumed, strangely, that any early people discovered there must have preceded early man elsewhere.

Mr. and Mrs. Brunton, later in the season, resume their own work in Egypt.

Dr. Newton Friend sends a note from Birmingham of his analysis of a lead net-sinker from Gurob. It contained .028 *per cent.* of silver, which is three times as much as the richest Roman lead, and fourteen times the amount in modern commercial lead.

Gaming sticks of bone, with triple zig-zag lines on one side only, much like the prehistoric Egyptian (see *Prehist. Egypt*, xxxi, I, 2) are published in the account of "A Prehistoric Pit-house Village Site on the Columbia River, at Wahluke, Grant County, Washington," by Herbert W. Krieger (*U.S. Nat. Mus. Proc.*, lxxiii, pp. 1-29). The burials were all of ceremonial cremation; the skulls had been flattened by board pressure in infancy. A remarkable carved bone has circles and vandykes in relief, more like some early mediaeval work.

Sir Ofori Atta, a Gold Coast chief, who came to Buckingham Palace for his investiture, was accompanied by a living "soul," or double, dressed closely like the chief, except that he was bare from the knees down. This is an interesting variety of the *Ka* faith, which may explain double burials.

An interesting article in *Art and Archaeology*, for August, deals with the swimming stroke of the ancients, showing that Hittites, Assyrians, Greeks and Romans all used the alternate overhead stroke, like the modern Egyptians. There is no instance of the breast-stroke under the water.

We owe an apology for the lateness of appearance of this third part of the *Journal*. A fire broke out in the works, which has made a delay in the preparation of the blocks of illustration, and held back this number, and also the fourth part.